(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir;

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Missing Indian travellers gone to Pak

†2469. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no trace of about forty six Indian travellers that boarded in the Caravan-e-aman bus which had gone to Pak occupied Kashmir from Srinagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of efforts made by Government to trace them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) According to the latest information, 10 out of the 54 Indian nationals who had travelled abroad the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus (Caravan-e-aman) to Pakistan Occupied Kashmir are still stranded in PoK. Government is in touch with Pakistani authorities to facilitate their return.

Vacancies in passport offices

2470. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are number of vacancies in different Regional Passport Offices in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such vacancies reported from various RPOs;

(c) whether it is a fact that the work in many RPOs are being offloaded to private parties;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps taken to fill the existing vacancies at the RPOs; and

(f) the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.